

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): Screen (1) for holding refuse sacks (7) open, wherein:

the screen (1) is formed of an elastic material and is compressible from a normal shape to a narrower shape for threading a refuse sack (7) onto the screen (1) or inserting the screen into the refuse sack (7), the screen (1) thereafter being brought to spring out from the narrower shape to the normal shape for stretching the refuse sack (7). ~~is shorter than the refuse sack (7) such that open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be folded into the screen (1),~~

the screen (1) has a length permitting folding of open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) into the screen (1). ~~is designed to stretch the refuse sack (7), and~~

a locking device (11) with outwardly extending pins (11a), is provided on the screen (1) for pressing the ~~such that open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) onto the pins (11a) such that the pins (11a) penetrate the open parts (7b).~~ ~~can be pressed on said locking device (11).~~

Claim 2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): Screen according to claim 1, ~~2~~, wherein a ~~holding-together~~ member (13) is provided to hold the screen (1) in the ~~its~~ narrower shape.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): Screen according to claim 1, wherein a second end ~~portion~~ portions (1c) of the screen (1) has at least one handle opening (6) into which parts (12) of the refuse sack (7) are insertable such that ~~one can get hold of the handle opening (6)~~ may be grasped in order to lift and carry the screen (1) and the refuse sack (7) together.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): Screen according to claim 1, wherein the ~~locking device (11) comprises pins (11a) which extend outwards from~~ a second end portion ~~portions~~ (1c) of the screen (1). ~~(1) and against which open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be pressed preferably for penetration thereof.~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): Screen according to claim 1, wherein the screen (1) in cross section has a semicircular ~~or substantially semicircular~~ shape.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): Screen according to claim 1, wherein the screen (1) is provided to permit location thereof, with a refuse sack (7) provided thereon, on a support (8) from which refuse shall be moved into the refuse sack (7), such that those parts (12) of the refuse sack (7) which extend between the two

longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) and which thereby have a planar or ~~substantially planar~~ shape, are situated close to and/or engage the said support (8).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): Screen according to claim 1, wherein the longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) are designed or include members for preventing damage of the refuse sack (7) by the said longitudinal edges (2, 3).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): Screen according to claim 1, wherein a strip (15) can be hooked onto two longitudinal edges (2, 3) of the screen (1) such that the said strip (15) extends across an opening (1a) between the longitudinal said edges (2, 3) at a second end portion portions (1c) of the screen (1) and that the open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) can be folded within the said strip (15).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): Screen according to claim 1, wherein:
the screen (1) is thin-walled and ~~elastic and~~ consists of polypropylene,
~~polypropylene or similar material~~, and

the refuse sack (7) is a plastic bag from which the screen (1) can be removed and which can be tied up after removal from of the screen (1).

Claim 11 (New): An apparatus for maintaining a refuse sack (7) in an open condition, said apparatus comprising:

an elastic panel member (1) compressible from a first shape to a second, narrower shape for inserting said panel member (1) into the refuse sack (7),

said panel member (1) flexing outwardly from said second shape toward said first shape thereby stretching the refuse sack (7), said panel member (1) having a length allowing folding of open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) into said panel member (1);
and

a locking device (11), with outwardly extending pins (11a), for penetrating the open parts (7b) of the refuse sack (7) thereby securing said panel member (1) within the refuse sack (7).